

H.A

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/762,636

Examiner

Jennifer Doan

Applicant(s)

RICKENBACH, ROBERT

Art Unit

2874

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed on June 13, 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-10, 13 and 14.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 21 January 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>081805</u> . |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT AND STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Response to Amendment

1. Applicant's amendment filed on June 13, 2005 has been fully considered and entered.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Jack C. Munro on August 18, 2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

Cancel claims 11 and 12.

Reasons for Allowance

3. Claims 1-10, 13 and 14 are allowed.
4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record fails to disclose or reasonably suggest all the limitations recited in independent claim 1. Specifically, the prior art of record fails to disclose a

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communication cable comprising an elongated flexible conductor integrated between the transmitting connector and the receiving connector, the elongated conductor including a fiber assembly comprising at least one optical fiber and a wire assembly comprising at least one metallic wire, the metallic wire to conduct electrical power, the optical fiber to conduct light pulses; and the transmitting connector including a first light emitting device connected to the optical fiber, the first light emitting device to receive an electrical signal and then convert the electrical signal into a corresponding light signal which is transmitted through the optical fiber to be reconverted back into an electrical signal by a first light receiving device at the receiving connector in combination with the other limitations of claim 1.

Claims 2-5 are allowed because of their dependencies on the independent claim 1.

The prior art of record also fails to disclose or reasonably suggest all the limitations recited in independent claim 6. Specifically, the prior art of record fails to disclose a connector for a communication cable comprising a light pulse receiver mounted within the housing, the light pulse receiver being connected to a flexible printed circuit board; and an electrical signal output connector connected to the printed circuit board, the electrical signal output connector adapted to receive an electrical signal from the printed circuit board and transmit same to an external piece of equipment in combination with the other limitations of claim 6.

Claims 7-10 are allowed because of their dependencies on the independent claim 6.

The prior art of record fails to disclose or reasonably suggest all the limitations recited in independent claim 13 as well. Specifically, the prior art of record fails to disclose a connector for a communication cable comprising a light pulse emitter mounted within the housing, the light pulse emitter being connected to a flexible printed circuit board, the flexible printed circuit board being mounted within the housing; a light pulse receiver connected to the housing; wherein the output path includes a flexible, elongated conductor and the conductor is formed of a plurality of spaced optical fibers and a plurality of spaced apart electrical conducting wires in combination with the other limitations of claim 13.

Claim 14 is allowed because it is dependent on the independent claim 13.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

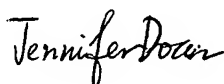
5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jennifer Doan whose telephone number is (571) 272-

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2346. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Thursday from 6:00am to 3:30pm, second Friday off.

6. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rodney Bovernick can be reached on (571) 272-2344. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

7. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Jennifer Doan

Patent examiner

August 18, 2005